

- Q1*
- a. a finger pad shield means having a first surface, and a second surface opposed to said first surface;
 - b. said first surface including a contact area for receiving [the] a finger pad of a bowler's finger proximate an end of said bowler's finger;
 - c. said second surface for insertion into [the] a finger hole of a bowling ball against the interior wall of said finger hole and for receiving [the] a force of said bowling ball when a bowler's maximum force is applied by said finger pad to the bowling ball, in releasing the bowling ball;
 - d. means for placing, connected to said finger pad shield means, for placing said contact area in contact with said finger pad; and wherein
 - e. said finger pad shield means is made of a rigid material adapted to spread said force of said bowling ball over said contact area of said first surface for reducing the pressure over said contact area.
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Amend Claim 2, as follows.

Q2

Claim 2 (Amended)

Claim 2 (Amended). The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim [78] 1, wherein said finger pad shield means includes two side walls terminating in an end of said finger pad shield means for placement of said end of said finger pad shield means in opposition to [the] said end of said bowler's finger, and said two side walls are displaced from each other with a narrowing displacement in the direction of said end of said finger pad shield means, for locating said contact area on said finger pad.

In Claim 3, line 1, delete "78" and insert --1--.

In Claim 4, line 1, delete "78" and insert --1--.

Amend Claim 5, as follows.

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Claim 5 (Amended). The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim [78] 1, wherein said finger pad shield means has a closed end and wherein said means for placing is adapted for placing said closed end in contact with [the] said end of said bowler's finger.

In Claim 6, line 1, delete "78" and insert --1--.

In Claim 7, line 1, delete "78" and insert --1--.

In Claim 8, line 1, delete "78" and insert --1--.

In Claim 9, line 1, insert –shield– between "pad; and "means" and delete "78" and insert --1--.

In Claim 10, line 1, delete "86" and insert –9--.

In Claim 11, line 1, delete "78" and insert --1--.

In Claim 12, line 1, delete "78" and insert --1--.

Amend Claim 13, as follows,

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Claim 13, (Amended) The bowler's finger pad shield means of Claim [89] 12 wherein said support means includes said means for placing, connected to said finger pad shield means, for placing said contact area in contact with said finger pad.

In Claim 14, line 1, delete "78" and insert --13--.

Claim 15 is amended as follows.

05
Claim 15 (Amended) The bowler's finger pad shield means of claim [78] 1, wherein said finger pad shield means is made to substantially resist deformation in said contact area from said force of said bowling ball.

Claim 16 (New) A bowler's finger pad shield for protecting a bowlers finger pad on a bowler's middle finger inserted into a bowling ball finger hole, from the force of the bowling ball against the bowler's finger pad, produced by the bowler applying a force from the bowler's middle finger pad to the bowling ball finger hole for lifting said bowling ball in the release of said bowling ball to apply rotation or spin, comprising,

- a) a means for protecting a bowler's finger pad;
- b) means for placing said means for protecting a bowler's finger pad, in contact with said bowler's finger pad and forming a contact area with said finger pad for insertion of said finger pad into the finger hole of a bowling ball for protecting said bowler's finger pad from a force of a bowling ball produced from a maximum force to lift said bowling ball in the release of said bowling ball;
- d) said means for protecting a bowler's finger pad, for spreading said force of a bowling ball produced from a maximum force to lift said bowling ball in the release of said bowling ball, over said contact area.

Claim 17 (New) The bowler's finger pad shield of Claim 16, wherein,

- e) said maximum force is within a range limited by a limit of muscular skeletal development.

Claim 18 (New). The bowler's finger pad shield of Claim 16, wherein,

f) said means for protecting a bowler's finger pad, for spreading said force of a bowling ball produced from a maximum force limited by a limit of muscular skeletal development, to lift said bowling ball in the release of said bowling ball, over said contact area.

Claim 19 (New) A bowler's aid for assisting the bowler in using the bowler's maximum force applied by the bowler's middle finger inserted in the finger hole of a bowling ball for lifting said bowling ball in the release of said bowling ball, comprising,

a) a finger pad shield;

b) said finger pad shield is in a curved form adapted to be placed over the finger pad of a bowler's finger inserted into the finger hole of a bowling ball for forming a contact area between said finger pad shield and said finger pad of a bowler's finger; and wherein,

c) said finger pad shield is substantially rigid to resist deformation from a force of a bowling ball produced by a maximum force applied by the bowler's finger pad inserted in the finger hole of said bowling ball to lift to said bowling ball in releasing said bowling ball.

Claim 20 (New) The bowler's aid of claim 19, wherein,

d) said bowler's maximum force is limited by the limit of muscular skeletal development.

Claim 21 (New). The bowler's aid of Claim 19, wherein,

e) said finger pad shield is formed to be substantially rigid to resist deformation and to spread said force of a bowling ball produced by a maximum force applied by the bowler's finger pad, over said contact area.

Claim 22 (New). The bowler's aid of Claim 21, wherein,

f) said finger pad shield is substantially rigid to resist deformation and to spread said force of a bowling ball produced by a maximum force applied by the bowler's finger pad, over said contact area uniformly.

Claim 23 (New). The bowler's aid of Claim 21, wherein,

g) said finger pad shield is formed to be substantially rigid to resist deformation and to spread said force of a bowling ball produced by a maximum force applied by the bowler's finger pad over said contact area to prevent pressure spots within said contact area.

Claim 24 (New). The bowler's aid of claim 19, including a glove having a finger part and said finger pad shield is attached to said finger part.

Claim 25 (New). The bowler's aid of claim 24, including a glove having a finger part and said finger pad shield is within said finger part.

Claim 26 (New). The bowler's aid of Claim 24, including a glove having a finger part and said finger pad shield is exterior to said finger part.

Claim 27 (New). The bowler's aid of Claim 19, including a limiting means connected to said finger pad shield and located on said finger pad shield to limit the depth of insertion of said finger pad shield into the finger hole of a bowling ball.

Claim 28 (New). The bowler's aid of Claim 27, wherein said limiting means is a raised surface extending away from said finger pad shield means.

Claim 29 (New). The bowler's aid of Claim 19, including, a support connected to said finger pad shield; to receive said force of said bowling ball and to deflect under said force of said bowling ball and said support is made of a rigidly deflectable material with a stable position for producing a counter force for restoring said support to said stable position, when deflected by said force of a bowling ball, .

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Claim 30 (New). The bowler's finger pad shield of claim 29, wherein said finger pad shield is made of the same material as said support.

Claim 31 (New). A bowler's finger pad shield for protecting a bowler's finger pad proximate an end of a bowler's finger, from the force of a bowling ball against the finger pad of said bowler's finger, produced when a bowler's maximum force is applied by the finger pad to the bowling ball to lift the bowling ball in the release of the bowling ball, comprising:

- a. a finger pad shield means for providing opposed first surface means and second surface means;
- b. said first surface means providing a contact area means for receiving a finger pad of a bowler's finger proximate an end of said bowler's finger;
- c. said second surface means for insertion into a finger hole of a bowling ball and against the interior wall of said finger hole and for receiving a force of said bowling ball produced when a bowler's maximum force is applied by said finger pad to the bowling ball, to lift said bowling ball in releasing said bowling ball;
- d. means for placing, connected to said finger pad shield means, for placing said contact area means in contact with said finger pad for forming a contact area; and

wherein

e. said finger pad shield means is adapted to spread said force of said bowling ball over said contact area.

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Claim 32 (New) The bowler's finger pad shield of Claim 31, wherein said finger pad shield means is adapted to spread said force of said bowling ball over said contact area for reducing the pressure within said contact area.
